

Appl. No. : 09/877,632
Filed : June 8, 2001

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments and the following remarks are responsive to the November 15, 2006 Final Office Action. Claims 1, 12-14, and 23 are amended, Claims 2-11, 15-22, 24, and 25 remain as originally filed, Claims 26 and 27 are cancelled without prejudice, and new Claims 28 and 29 are added. Thus, Claims 1-25, 28, and 29 are presented for further consideration. Please enter the amendments and reconsider the claims in view of the following remarks.

Response to Rejection of Claims 1-14 and 16-27 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In the November 15, 2006 Final Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claims 1-14 and 16-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,868,225 issued to Brown et al. ("Brown").

Claim 1

As described herein, Claim 1 has been amended to recite (emphasis added):

1. An audiovisual system which receives audiovisual data and which stores for later playback at least a portion of the audiovisual data comprising a plurality of program locations, each program location representing a starting point of a program segment of one of a plurality of programs, the audiovisual system connectable to a user display, the audiovisual system comprising:

a system controller;

a storage device to store the portion of the audiovisual data and to play back the stored portion of the audiovisual data;

a marking module coupled to the system controller to create metadata in response to a control input for marking the program segments, the metadata comprising information regarding the program segments of the stored portion of the audiovisual data;

a display generator coupled to the system controller to generate a mosaic representation of the program segments of the stored portion of the audiovisual data, wherein **the mosaic representation comprises a plurality of cells representing respective stored program segments of a program and comprising images extracted from the respective stored program segments;** and

a program selector coupled to the system controller to select a program segment of the stored portion of the audiovisual data in response to a user input, the selected program segment selected based on the information of the metadata, whereby the audiovisual system selectively plays back selected program segments of the stored portion of the audiovisual data starting from selected program locations, thereby enabling a user to jump to and play back selected program segments of the plurality of programs.

Appl. No. : 09/877,632
Filed : June 8, 2001

Various portions of the specification as originally filed provide support for the amendments to Claim 1, including but not limited to, page 5, lines 5-14, page 17, lines 3-5, and Figures 8 and 9A-9D.

Applicant submits that Brown does not disclose all the limitations of amended Claim 1. For example, Brown does not disclose a display generator that generates a mosaic representation of the program segments which comprises "a plurality of cells representing respective stored program segments of a program and comprising images extracted from the respective stored program segments," as recited by amended Claim 1.

While Brown discloses a multimedia program bookmarking system which displays saved bookmarks over a track play bar while a program is playing (Brown at column 20, lines 8-12), Applicant submits that the bookmarks disclosed by Brown are not "a mosaic representation of the program segments of the stored portion of the audiovisual data," as recited by amended Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant submits that amended Claim 1 is patentably distinguished over Brown. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of amended Claim 1 and pass amended Claim 1 to allowance.

Claims 2-13

Each of Claims 2-4, 6-9, and 11-13 depends from amended Claim 1, Claim 5 depends from Claim 4, and Claim 10 depends from Claim 9. Therefore, each of Claims 2-13 includes all the limitations of amended Claim 1 as well as other limitations of particular utility, so Claims 2-13 are patentably distinguished over Brown. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 2-13 and pass these claims to allowance.

Claim 14

As described herein, Claim 14 is amended to recite (emphasis added):

14. An audiovisual system which receives audiovisual data and which stores for later playback at least a portion of the audiovisual data comprising a plurality of program locations, each program location representing a starting point of a program segment of one of a plurality of programs, the audiovisual system connectable to a user display which provides to a user information regarding the program segments of the stored portion of the audiovisual data, the audiovisual system comprising:

a storage device to store the portion of the audiovisual data and to play back the stored portion of the audiovisual data;

a grid generator to configure for the user display the information regarding the program segments of the stored portion of the audiovisual data, the information derived from metadata corresponding to the program

Appl. No. : 09/877,632
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segments of the stored portion of the audiovisual data, the information provided to the user via the user display in **grid format with a plurality of grid elements arranged as a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns, each grid element representing a program segment of the stored portion of the audiovisual data, each grid element independently selectable in response to a user input;** and

a program selector to select a grid element that represents a selected program segment of the stored portion of the audiovisual data in response to the user input, the selected program segment selected based on the information derived from the metadata, whereby the audiovisual system selectively plays back selected program segments of the stored portion of the audiovisual data starting from selected program locations, thereby enabling a user to jump to and play back selected program segments of the plurality of programs.

Various portions of the specification as originally filed provide support for the amendments to Claim 14, including but not limited to, page 5, lines 10-14, page 14, lines 5-9, page 17, lines 8-14, page 19, lines 16-18, and Figures 8 and 9A-9D.

Applicant submits that Brown does not disclose all the limitations of amended Claim 14. For example, Brown does not disclose a “grid format with a plurality of grid elements arranged as a plurality of rows and a plurality of columns, each grid element representing a program segment of the stored portion of the audiovisual data, each grid element independently selectable in response to a user input,” as recited by amended Claim 14.

While Brown discloses “a program guide area ... which is a list of the programs that are currently airing, was aired, or is scheduled on live TV” as having either two or three columns (Brown at column 21, lines 23-29 and 46-48), Brown does not disclose that the program guide area includes “information regarding the program segments of the **stored portion of the audiovisual data**” or that “each grid element [is] independently selectable ... whereby the audiovisual system selectively **plays back selected program segments** of the stored portion of the audiovisual data,” as recited by amended Claim 14 (emphasis added). Therefore, Applicant submits that Brown does not disclose all the limitations of amended Claim 14. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of amended Claim 14 and pass amended Claim 14 to allowance.

Claims 16-22

Each of Claims 16-22 depends from amended Claim 14, so each of Claims 16-22 includes all the limitations of amended Claim 14 as well as other limitations of particular utility.

Appl. No. : 09/877,632
Filed : June 8, 2001

Therefore, Claims 16-22 are patentably distinguished over Brown, and Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 16-22 and pass these claims to allowance.

Claim 23

Applicant has amended Claim 23 to recite (emphasis added):

23. A method of playing back selected portions of stored audiovisual data stored on a storage device, the method comprising:
- providing stored audiovisual data corresponding to a plurality of programs, each program comprising a plurality of program locations, each program location representing a starting point of a program segment of one of the plurality of programs;
 - creating metadata in response to a control input for marking the program segments, the metadata comprising information regarding the program segments of the stored audiovisual data;
 - displaying to a user the information regarding the program segments of the stored audiovisual data in a mosaic representation, wherein **the mosaic representation comprises a plurality of cells representing respective stored program segments of a program and comprising images extracted from the respective stored program segments;**
 - receiving a user input indicating a selected program segment of one of the plurality of programs, the selected program segment selected based on the information of the metadata; and
 - playing back the selected program segment starting from the corresponding program location of the stored audiovisual data, thereby jumping to and playing back selected program segments of the plurality of programs based on the metadata.

Various portions of the specification as originally filed provide support for the amendments to Claim 23, including but not limited to, page 5, lines 5-14, page 17, lines 3-5, and Figures 8 and 9A-9D.

For reasons similar to those discussed above with regard to amended Claim 1, Applicant submits that Brown does not disclose the method recited by amended Claim 23. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of amended Claim 23 and pass amended Claim 23 to allowance.

Claims 24-27

Claims 26 and 27 have been cancelled without prejudice. Each of Claims 24 and 25 depends from amended Claim 23, so each of Claims 24 and 25 includes all the limitations of amended Claim 23 as well as other limitations of particular utility. Therefore, Claims 24 and 25

Appl. No. : 09/877,632
Filed : June 8, 2001

are patentably distinguished over Brown, and Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 24 and 25 and pass these claims to allowance.

Response to Rejection of Claim 15 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In the November 15, 2006 Final Office Action, the Examiner rejects Claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,240,241 issued to Yuen et al. ("Yuen"). Applicant submits that Yuen does not disclose or suggest the limitations of amended Claim 14 which are not disclosed or suggested by Brown. Therefore, Applicant submits that amended Claim 14 is patentably distinguished over the combination of Brown and Yuen.

Claim 15 depends from amended Claim 14, so Claim 15 includes all the limitations of amended Claim 14 as well as other limitations of particular utility. Therefore, Applicant submits that Claim 15 is patentably distinguished over the combination of Brown and Yuen, and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claim 15 and pass Claim 15 to allowance.

Comments on New Claims 28 and 29

Applicants have added new Claims 28 and 29 and submits that these new claims do not add new matter to the present application. Each of Claims 28 and 29 depends from amended Claim 23, so each of Claims 28 and 29 includes all the limitations of amended Claim 23 as well as other limitations of particular utility. For at least the reasons discussed above with regard to amended Claim 23, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner pass these claims to allowance.

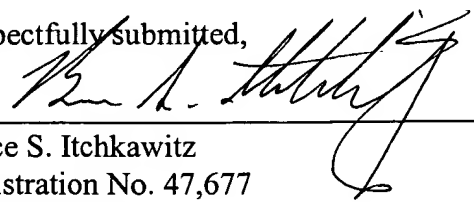
Summary

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that Claims 1-25, 28, and 29 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests such action. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

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Respectfully submitted,

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